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24-7829

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19 NOV 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Strategic Warning

1. In order to permit General Faurer to proceed with the development of the new strategic warning process, I propose you address the subject at an early USIB meeting. Suggested talking points are attached.

2. On 13 November, the members of the ad hoc committee established by USIB to review this subject were briefed on the recent exchange of views between you and General Graham. The NSA and State representatives continue to have misgivings about what they view as a turnover to DIA of major responsibility for the strategic warning function. (The State representative also would prefer a broader definition of strategic warning.) We do not know whether General Allen and Mr. Hyland feel sufficiently strongly on these matters to make an issue of them in USIB.

3. General Faurer has told [] and Dick Lehman he plans to do the job by imbedding in the NMIC a small inter-Agency analyst group under his CIA deputy for warning. The NMIC will do the basic military analysis, and this staff will add the political and economic factors and come up with a judgment. This arrangement has a number of advantages.

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--It preserves the national character of warning as an intelligence problem.

--It avoids subordinating the warning judgment to the operational--and overly machine-oriented--outlook of the NMIC.

--The other Community agencies will find such an arrangement--which gives them some voice in the ultimate judgment--much more acceptable.

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4. All of us recognize that the narrow focus we propose for the effort will leave one gap unfilled. There is a genuine need throughout the national security apparatus for frequent national short-range assessment of such major problems as the Arab-Israeli situation, a need which cannot be met by the Alerting Memorandum without degrading its impact. We propose to meet this requirement by using the NIB machinery. Thus the NIB ~~once a week, or oftener~~ if ~~necessary~~, will contain ~~a~~ fully coordinated mini-estimate of the likelihood of another Middle East war.

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Samuel V. Wilson
Lieutenant General, USA
D/DCI/IC

Attachment:
As stated

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Strategic Warning--Proposed Talking Points
for the DCI at USIB

- The Community has long agreed that the Watch Committee/National Indications Center mechanism ~~has outlived its usefulness and~~ needs revision.
- The Alerting Memorandum, along with current intelligence reporting, is designed to cover all types of warning short of warning of military attack against the U.S., its allies, or its major interests.
- This latter, strategic warning, function should be handled by a small, high-level, inter-agency analytic group.
- This analytic group should draw support from all elements of the Community.
- It should be closely integrated with the warning mechanisms of the Department of Defense.
- It should rely on existing operations centers to provide the daily "watch" ingredient to the strategic warning process.
- To meet these criteria, I propose to:
 - Appoint General Faurer as my chief representative for strategic warning in the USIB arena. He would have the same general reporting responsibilities to me as USIB committee chairmen.
 - Establish a small inter-agency analytic group under General Faurer's direction and colocated with the NMIC.
 - Appoint Mr. of CIA to serve as General Faurer's deputy for strategic warning and as chief of the analytic group.
 - Request General Wilson to form an inter-agency group to review the strategic warning process periodically and report to USIB.

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- To formalize these arrangements, I am asking the Ad Hoc Committee on revision of the Watch mechanism to prepare a revision of DCID 1/5 for our consideration.
- I am also asking General Faurer to undertake immediately the planning required to implement these new arrangements.

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DCI/DDCI
Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	LC		
2	DDCI			12	IG		
3	S/MC			13	Compt		
4	DDS&T			14	Asst/DCI		
5	DDI			15	AO/DCI		
6	DDA			16	Ex/Sec		
7	DDO			17			
8	D/DCI/IC	✓		18			
9	D/DCI/NIO			19			
10	GC			20			

SUSPENSE _____

Date

Remarks:

OK — On
agenda —

DCI/DDCI

11/25/74